The publication office of the N deventh street, second floor, over W. D. Shep-herd's store. Entrance on Seventh street.

Friday, April 18, 1862.

ay Reading Matter on every page. W CLUBS POR THE DAILY NATIONAL REPUBLICAN TO SOLDIERS.

A PAPER THAT EVERY SOLDIER SHOULD We have been induced to offer our daily pa

per to soldiers, who shall form clubs, at the llowing low rates : I copy, 4 months...... 10.00

All over ten copies, at the rate of one dollar per copy for four months. The name with the money. The names must always be accompanie

the names distinctly, and give the company and the number of the regimen The papers will be mailed to one name or the names will be written separately, if de

OUTSIDE.-Official Report (in full) of Gen. Frant; Report of the Pursuit of the Enemy by Gen. Sherman, &c., &c.

THE CIRCULATION OF THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

Vast numbers of persons have been brou to Washington by the present war, and have emained here long enough to understand the collical views of the National Republican, and to see the place it fills and the opportunit which it has for influencing public opinion.

These persons, if of Republican sympathics have almost invariably expressed the in a very kind manner of our enterprise. They te its importance, and have been die sed to look indulgently upon short-comings.

When this paper was catablished, Washington was quite as much of a Southern town Baltimore, and not at all inclined to favor a an journal. Things are changing for the better in that respect, but the difficulties to be encountered are still very considerable.

In order to place this paper on an indepen-dent and therefore useful basis, it is necessary that its circulation in the States should be en We publish, in addition to a daily, a large

and handsome weekly, at prices ranging from two dollars to one dollar per annum, according to the number taken. It contains all the ter of the daily, not strictly local, and is sheap at the single subscription price of two

To obtain the circulation we ought to have will require the friendly exertions of many our enterprise, will exert himself, when he get home, to send us subscriptions, few, or many as he may have opportunity and success, the aggregate result will be large.

AN ACT OF INDEMNITY.

The suit commenced by Mr. Butler against General Cameron for an act done by the latter Secretary of War, has led to the suggestion that a bill should be passed by Congress to indemnify the President, Cabinet, and "all others in authority," for such judgments as may be recovered against them in cases like this of Mr. Butler, when, under the argency and ne cessity of a great rebellion, executive authority has been assumed and exercised, beyond what the courts may adjudge them to have pos-

etruing the laws differently from the courts. So, too, it may be their highest duty to overstep the boundaries of law, even when there is no doubt about the construction of it. To obey the laws is a duty; but, as Mr. Jefferson sald "not the highest duly"—which is to save the country. Men in office, acting conscientiously and with the best lights they have, ought to be protected against personal consequences, when they go beyond the strict letter of law.

Our statute books are full of acts of indem nity, passed in favor of officials under thes mstances; as, for example, the act refund ing to General Jackson the amount exacted this mor from him as a fine by a judicial functionary at

But as it would be monstrous to pass a bill Navy Yard. nity for all future cases of transc official authority, so it is hardly less monstrous to propose such an act for all past cases, in the lump and without discrimination. Each case must stand on its own peculiar circumstances

The passage of such a sweeping bill, aside from other consequences, would have the effect of inviting suits by individuals imagining them selves to have been aggrieved. It would also have the effect to induce juries to find verdicts against officials, and to inflate the amount of such verdicts. With a general law making such verdicts payable out of the public treas ury, it would be a question of money direct between an individual and the Governm ney directly and individuals command sympathies which the Government never does.

It is proper to be said, that we do not under stand that the Administration desire the passage of any such sweeping bill of indemnity as we have referred to. So far as we understand anything about it, our information is that the stration has discountenanced the suggestion when made. This is most probable, as it cannot but be foreseen that such a measure

In his mescage of April 8, to the Confederate Congress, Jeff. Davis, having then accounts of the first day's battle at Pittsburg Landing, speaks of it as "a glorious and decisive victory." He mys :

"After a hard fought hattle of ten hours, the enemy was driven in disorder from his position, and pursued to the Tennessee river, where, under the cover of the gunboats, he was, at last accounts, endeavoring to effect his retreat by aid of his transports."

The disappointment at Richmond, upon learning the result of the second day's battle, must have been overwhelming.

J. Shillington, corner of 41 street and Pennsylvania avenue, will please accept our thanks for a copy of Godey's Lady's Book for May. It contains a beautiful engraving en-titled "May Flowers," Godey's fashions for May, and other good things, for which Godey's

MEN AND THINGS AT THE CAPITAL

The world renowned contest between the Merrimas and the Monter has "done for" the present style of coast fortifications. This we learn is the deliberate judgment of the military and naval committees of Congress. No more stone forts are needed after the experien r day at Fort Pulnski. There was one o our best forts, costing over a million of dol lars, yet, when the hour of trial came, she was utterly unable to make a defence again very fond of their nick-name, "the Yanks," yet somehow those very "Yanks" seem to b superior to the chivalric, scalp-taking South ern gentlemen. The Military Committees of Congress will recommend that no more money be squandered upon forts and fortresses, but that every dollar that one be spared be at one put into floating batteries, fron-clad vesselswar, and the like. These are the true defend of the country hereafter. We learn that if the Merrimac does not very soon come out that she will be very likely to find reinforcements to the Monitor. The rebels possibly are a lit tle ahead of us in the construction of two o three of these vessels, but it will take but rhort time for Yankee gumption to beat them If the mechanical genius of the free States out not build five iron-clad gunboats where the rebels can one, we ought to be beaten. There can be no doubt as to which party in this great controversy will be benefited most by the rev

dution in naval science. There is a class of people who live upon im-probable rumors. To keep them alive, the nsationists every day coin some wild story respecting the war or a Cabinet change. Ruors were thick yesterday at the botels of the esignation of Mr. Stanton, the vigorous Score ary of War, and of Mr. Welles, the Secretary f the Navy. The news-mongers were greatly iclighted with those wild speculations and dationiem reports. Doubtless, there are ersons in this city, as well as elsewhere, wh would like to drive Meers. Stanton and Wello rom the Cabinet, but they will never accom plish their object in this way.

Yesterday was a dull day in Congress. Noth ing stirring in the debate relieved the general fullness in cither House. Quite a number persons were gathered to hear McDougall and cointed, the debate not being resumed. In the House, the Pacific railroad bill was discussed pro and con., but no vote was reached. It is evident that the bill will not pass withou nendments-perhaps it will be postpone The Senate went into executive session for few moments - long enough to refer severa ninations appropriately; among others, th committee will move to reject the nomination of ex Mayor Berrett, but this may be a mistake Of course no one knows this to be a fact. See ator Wilson and family left town by the fire o'clock trian last evening for Natick, Massachu setts, their home. Mr. Wilson returns

There is a wondrous change in the weather nce the snow storm of a few days ago. The lean from winter into the midst of spring is quick one. Some of our generals might learn lesson, if they would, from Nature's "stra egy." To be sure, she is generally "slow" in occasionally wrought by her lightning changes lawns, and the breezes which sweep over the Capitol grounds will be freighted with th sweet odors of May flowers. Summer soon will be upon us. Let the corporation remember this and the dead horses on the city frontiers. few hundred dollars expended note may a see the carts, the Avenue is pestered with clouds of due It will do very little good to care for the Ave nue, unless the adjoining streets are also cleane and watered.

When will Congress give us a railway : We are in instant need of one. The immense distances of the capital would no longer remain a nulsance with a good system of horse railways why will not the parties who are quarreling over rival charters get out of the way, unit their forces, or do something which will give us the road? Let Congress pass a bill befo nth closes, and by the 1st of August th care will be running from the Capitol to Georgetown, and before next winter all the way to th SPECTATOR.

RUNNING OFF SLAVES .-- We have noticed our local columns several instances of the run sing off of slaves from this city, immediately before the signing of the emand

A case occurred on Thirteenth street, when we live, at six o'clock in the morning of Wed nesday, the day of the signing of the bill. A we herse wagen load of negroes (one man and the balance women and oblidren) was drive by under the direction of a white man on horse sack. The wailing of the women will not soo be forgotten by those who heard it.

MORE PAY WANTED. - A petition to the Sec ate from the medical army corps of cadets, as drafted by a committee for that purpose at a war. It is thought they are generally and dean increase of rank and pay, (which is now \$30 per month,) to the rank and pay of Breve cond Lieutenant of infantry. It premises that a cadet must have a liberal education have studied medicine two years, attended on full course of lectures, and passed an examination before the Army Medical Board; that by any and every circumstance of position re thrown into association with commis sioned officers, and that not one, after an experience of eight months, has been able to pay expenses without assistance from friends. The Sanitary Commission endorses the demand as est, reasonable and proper.

MARYLAND. - Charles Carroll and Charles Carrollton," the last survivor of the "Signers," are both reported to be in favor of emancip tion in Maryland.

THE NAUGUTY FELLOW .- The Nashville Union of the 12th instant says:

"Some of the furious she rebels of Nashville are ugly, scrawny, lank, and toothless old girls who can't attract the notice of the Union soldiers. They are the worst of rebels, withou

Governor Johnson ought to take care of that fellow of the Union.

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH. LATEST FROMOYORKTOWN

The Ball Opened !

An Artillery Engagement.

Rebel Batteries Bilenced!

NEAR YORKTOWN, April 17 .- During Tuesday and Wednesday the gunboats amused them selves by shelling the woods below Gloucester One of them approached within two miles o Yorktown, yesterday morning, when the reb opened from a new battery concealed in the woods. The boat having obtained the position of their guns, returned to her position withou

eceiving any damage.

The firing was renewed to-day at long inter

The rebels yesterday morning, with 1,000 men,commenced to strengthen a battery located about three miles to the left of Yorktown, when battery was brought to bear, causing them

The rebels opened with their heavy guns, when a second battery was brought forward. A brisk fire was now kept up for four hours during which three of the enemy's guns were ted, when both parties cessed for s while; but the contest was resumed on ou part late in the afternoon and continued till daylight this morning, effectually preven the rebels from repairing the damage they had siderable, as the firing of our artillery was very nd Michigan, killed, and F. Page, Co. K, Third Michigan regiment, had his foot shot off; also Richard Painter, of the Berdan Sharpeh was probably fatally shot, while on picket Other engagements took place further to the left, and pear James river, in which our troops showed very great gallantry. The results have not yet been fully accertained.

Mt. Jackson Occupied by National Troops!

Reported that the Rebels will Show Fight!

Several of them taken Prisoner

ADMIRABLE CONDUCT OF OUR TROOP

GEN. SHIELDS COMMANDING IN PERSON The following was received yesterday at th

War Department: Moust Jackson, April 17—9 a. m.—Out roops occupied Mount Jackson at 7 o'cloc this morning, and are now in front of Reede' Hill, where the enemy appeared to be in force The people report that they intend battle there They resisted our advance in order to gain time for the burning of bridges and railway cars, engines, &c., that had accumulated at the ter minus of the road; but our movement was a sudden, and the retreat of the rebels so precitate, that we were enabled to save the bridges two locomotives, and some cars. All three bad been prepared with combustible material for

Many prisopers have been taken, and sever e horses captured from the enemy. The troops have acted admirably; they we

motion at 1 o'clock, a. m. Col. Carroll's brigade, of Shields's division d the advance on the back road to the rea Mount Jackson, and Gen. Kimball on the turn pike: Gen. Williams, with his splendid division inging up the reserve column. We shall occupy New Market to night.

Gen. Shields has so far recovered as to b ble to command his division in person.

From the Shenandoah.

Capture of Railroad Rolling Stock, &c.

Gen. Banks on the Advance!

STRASBURG, April 17.—It is reported here by reliable officers, that Generals Williams's and Shields's commands passed Stoney Creek last ng, and advanced towards Mt. Jackson They surprised, in a church, a company of Ash by's cavalry, 50 to 60 strong, in company with 3 lieutenants and horses of the company. So secure did they feel, that they had neglected to post pickets. The prisoners are now here in charge of Col. Candy, commander of the post to be forwarded to Baltimore.

Col. Candy, in person, keeps up an active scout through the mountain baunts of the rebels. His cavalry, between two forks of the Shenandoah, captured and brought in several Sad Accident on the Shenandoah prisoners who aided in an attack on his pickets.

He reports the inhabitants as almost deet! ute of the necessaries of life, and Ignorant of our force, but request protection against rebe depredations, having never taken part to the meeting in this city, on the 13th instant, asks cidedly in favor of the restoration of the

[SECOND DESPATCH.] Dispatches from Banks, dated Mt. Jackson this morning, states that he had selzed two comotives, several cars, saved bridges, took many prisoners, and several fine horses. His advance was so sudden that the enemy had not time to destroy work or property, although every preparation had probably been made to

GREAT ACCUMULATION OF NEWSPAPERS AT THE NASHVILLE POST OFFICE .- The Post Office Department has received information that newspapers from nearly all the principal cities of the North and West, directed to the rebel States and to offices long since discontinued, McTavish, grandsons of "Charles Carroll of are being sent in large quantities to the post ice in Nashville, Tenn., for distribution These papers cannot be forwarded and accor mulate at that point to such an extent as to make it difficult to find room for them in the office. To relieve the postmaster from the heavy burden thus improperly imposed upon him, it has become necessary to instruct him to sell, as waste paper, such as cannot be delivered, or forwarded, under present postal arrangements.

There are 1,769 amployees in the Philadelphia navy-yard.

The Baltimers and Ohio Railread to Construct an Iron
Bridge over the Potomac
at Harper's Ferry!

Baltimers April 15 (from Fortress Monro).

THIRTY-SEVENTE COLUERSS,
SECOND SESSION.

IN SENATE
THESIST, April 17, 1882.

Robel Court "Nipped in the Bud

Three Union Magistrates the Court ! BET-V:

MARTINSBURG BECOMING LIVELY: Rebel Beserters and Refugoes Plocking in

ARRIVAL OF A SECESH HEROINE!

MARTINSBURG, April 17 .- The des engineers of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad inform your correspondent that during the of a superb iron bridge over the Potomac a Harper's Ferry. The structure is to be of highly crnamental as well as of permanent pat tern, costing, it is stated, about \$250,000. The plets of the present structure are to be raised five feet—far above any danger from future freshets. Mr. Quincy, constructive engineer of the company, will superintend the erection of

the bridge, which has been designed and nearly completed by Mr. Bollman, the well known oridge architect and builder, of Baltimore. A little episode in the history of the rebe lion transpired here yesterday, which was the date fixed by both the former and Confederate Berkeley county. At the appointed bour, the sheriff, under the Confederate regime, entered the court-house, and was about to ring the bell, summoning the late Confederate judge, John B. Nadenbush, to his seat, when Thomas Noakes, a well-known loyal citizen seized the sheriff by the arm, and emphatically notified him that " no rebel sourt should here after convene in Berkeley county without pass and the rebel court did not convene.

Subsequently, by permission and under the direction of Maj. C. M. Walker, Tenth Main olupteers, provest marshal of the town, three citizens, and held the court. Some official be sinces was transacted, court and county officers appointed, and the court adjourned until the next term without ordering any election, but awaiting the action of the countil uthorities in the premises.

The town begins to assume the appe of new enterprise. The railroad depot is crowded with beavy trains of merchandles, and bundreds of bands are employed in creeting new structures and repairing the damage done by the ruthlem Confederate military. The town is filled with refugees and deserters from the rebel ranks, the latter of whom are not very

tween two military companies who wer rivals for her stimulating donations and swee

From the South.

Our Mortar Fleet Pass Forts Jackson and Philip, in the Mississippi, without Opposi-

THE REBELS REMOVING THEIR GUNS FROM PENSACOLA.

Philadelphia, April 17.—A letter to the New York Herald from Key West, says that information from Fort Pickens states that ten mortar boats and three stemeers have passed Forts Jackson and Philip, on the Mississippi river, without a shot being fixed on them. Pensacola has not yet been evacuated. A deserver from Pensacola says that only a thousand men remarked there. The beaviest gurs have been removed, the others are buried or epiked. Forts Molkse and Barrancas are

r spiked. Forts McRae and Barraucas ar

made.
The Herald has extracts from Norfolk papers of the 15th instant, and Richmond papers of the 14th.

FROM FORT PILLOW. Progress of its Siege!

Ex-Licut. Huger, P. S. Navy, in Command !

HOLLINS " GONE BELOW!" The Navy Department has required the fol-

The Navy Department of the Navy Department on the lists, and soon cleared the river of all vessels. Our shell fell in the rebel camp.

The rebel works are strong and extensive. Two descriers came on board the gunbouts and say that ex Lieut. Thomas Huger (of the U.S. Navy) is in command at Fort Pillow, and that General Pillow and Commodore Holling that Below.

Troops Browned.

Troops Browned.

Wincuszties, April 17.—Yesterday, a large boat containing a number of men and officer of the 75th Pannsylvania regiment, was swamped at Castleman's Fevry, on the Shenan doah. Between forty and fifty men and several officers were drowned. Among the latter were Adjutant Yestiman and tapt. Wilson, of the 3d brigade. The commissive and Capt Mark will endeavor to obtain a full lift on the arrival of the regiment here. The regiment was formerly commanded by Col. Bohlon, now acting brigadier general 3d brigade Blenker's division.

The Berdan Sharpshooters. HEADQUARTERS PORTER'S DIVISION, Third Army Corps, Camp near Yorktow April 8, 1862.

April 8, 1862.

Colonel Berdan, Commanding Sharpshooters:
Colonel: The Commanding General instructs
me to say to you that he is glad to learn, from
the admissions of the enemy themselves, that
they begin to fear your sharpshooters. Your
men have caused a large number of the enemy
to bite the dust. The Commanding General is
glad to learn that your corps are proving
themselves so efficient, and trusts that this in
telligence will encourage your men, give them,
if possible, a clearer eye and a steadler hand,
so that when their trusty riffes are pointed at
the foe they will make one rebel less at every
discharge.

I am, truly, Your obedient servant, FRED T. LOCKE, Assistant Adjutant-Genera

The Sacred College at Rome is composed of seventy cardinals. The Cardinal Macchi, the oldest, is in his ninety-second year, and the youngest is but 45 years . while ten are 75 and upwards.

Balainoss, April 17, (from Fortress Monros, April 16.) - The calm weather prevailing in the Roads has been most propilious for the appearance of the Merriman, but as she does not come out, it is concluded that

out, it is concluded that the was most likely injured by getting aground when last down. The Richmond Disputch has some comments on the Merrimac, which, it says, spent two days in Hampton Roads, bantering the Monitor and the Yankee fleet to come up in range of our shore gunst. They claim that the is master of Hampton Roads.

The exploit of the Jamestown, in sciaing three vessels, is regarded as showing the terror with which the Yankees view the Merrimac. Considering it not worth while to waste any more coal is fruittees effort to entice the Monitor to a ceutifict, the Merrimac returned to her sanchorage.

tor to a centifict, the Merrimae returned to her anchorage.

The helief is very general here that the Merrimae geoelved some injury during her recent raid, which compelled her to go back to Norfolk. She was undoubtedly aground all the second day, and from the heavy weight of her armament she may have sprug a leek. She is, however, back at the Norfolk navy yard, and there is little doubt has been taken back there for repairs of some kind.

When moving about the upper Roads on Friday last, and exchanging shots with the Naugatuck, the was very close to the English steamer Racer—at one time close alongside. In centrally an experienced gunner, he assured me that the last gun the Merrimae fired—either the gun or the shell exploded before it left the muzzle of the gun. He was close enough to see a great commotion on board, and the cucape from the port holes. ere a great commotion from the port holes.

Correspondence of the Associated Press. Southern News Heme-The Attack on the Forts at the Month of the Mississippt River,

FORTRISIS MORROR, April 16.—There is nothing of interest stirring in this neighborhood today. The Merrimac is still out of right.

The Norfolk papers of today contain the

ollowing:
REGMOND, April 12.—Both Houses of Cengrees have adopted a resolution to adjourn on Monday next and to meet again on the 3rd Monday in August. Reports have been received here of the land

Reports have been received here of the landing of Yankee troops at Tappahannock, Essex county, Virginia, (on the Rappahannock river.)
Richmond, April 15.—Five gunboats went to Wilana on the Rappahannock river on Bonday, and next day proceeded to Tappahannock. No troops were landed—and the movement is supposed to be a reconnoisance or fetch.

Official information from New Orleans states that the attack on Forts Jackson and Philip commenced yesterday, 14th last.

SAVANARI, April 14.—The Morning News learns that Jacksonville, Pla., was evacuated by the Federals last Tuesday. They said they were going to Tybee. The town is now in possession of the Confederates.

The conscription bill was passed by Congress

were going to Tybee. The town is now in possession of the Confederates.

The conscription bill was passed by Congress on the 9th inst. The Norfolk Day Book announces the arrival there of the French frighte Gassendi with the French Minister, and states that there was great curiosity and many nurmiess on the occasion. The editor says that M. Mercler has dispatched from the French consult at Richmond, which is the cause of the visit.

is filled with refugees and (deserters from the rebel ranks, the latter of whom are not very kindly received by the former, and frequent collisions ensue, requiring the indirference of the Provest Marshal.

Among the recent arrivals, is Miss Bell Boyd, who figured some months ago at Manassa Junction, in supplying the rebel troops with phility, and was the heroine of a fatal continuous form the Liucoln gan, which skimmed along, striking the water and hounding forward several times, at each touch throwing up a spray of water thirty feet in the air, and disappearing in the water finally about a mile from Sewell's Point.

Point.

The second shot was fired from the rified Union gun, an elongated bolder of iron weighing five hundred and twenty pounds. The gun was elevated at twenty nine degrees, and with a report that fairly made the earth tremble, the immense shot went whistling and shrieking through the air, and in about forty seconds it came down in the water close in to the shore off Sawell's Point, a distance of fully five miles. This morning a new rided gun, mounted on the rampar's of the fort, was tented by several shot in the direction of Sewell's Point. The result was that one shell atruck in the woods result was that one shell atruck in the woods near the Point, and the others fully commanded

be channel.

There has been an extensive smoke arisin There has been an extensive smoke arising all day to day from the camp at Newport News, leading to the belief that preparations are making to evacuate it. There is no doubt of the fact that the Merrimac can come there and shell the camp out whenever she is inclined to do so Whether it is better to evacuate it than leave it to be destroyed and plundered by the enemy is a question easily decided by the military authorities. It has never caused to be a postion of importance to us, and feen. Mansfield is not the man to leave the enemy to do what he can do for them. The warm weather renders huts and barracks erected there of but little present importance, as the men all now prefer the use of their tents.

Capture of a Rebel Fort on Santa Ross Island.

NEW YORK, April 17.—The steamer Philadelphia arrived at Havana on the 10th instant from Fort Pickens. She brought nine refugees trom the rebel camps, one of whom was a sutter in the army. The party ran away from the rebels, taking with them \$10,000, in gold and a large amount of Confederate scrip.

There were only five bundred rebel soldlers at Propagalog.

t Pensacola.
Fort McRae had been abandoned.
The fort at the restern end of Santa Rosa stand had been taken by the United States

RECONNOTESTANCE UP THE RAPPAULANNOCK Advices received by the Mary Bell, which ar rived at the navy yard yesterday, give particu lars of a reconneissance up the Rappahannocl on Monday in company with the Island Bells satellite, Resolute and Reliance. In the after toon, they entered a creek upon which Urban s located, and were fired upon from rifle plus but without loss, when the boats were brough o, and the rebels were speedlly shelled out.

Approaching the town, white flags were fly-ng from nearly every bouse. None but old or offen men were seen, the able-bodied baying enlisted or had been impressed into the rebe ervice. Fort Lowry was evacuated. Anchor ing in front of Fort Lowry, they shelled the woods, and going ashere, raised the star span gled banner upon the rebel flag-staff. The place had just been vacated; bread was found warm in the ovens. The hospital was in order, well supplied with medicines, and nearly a hundred comfortable frame buildings had beet erected there. A boat had been sunk in front f the fort. Two 68-pounder guns had been sunk in attempting to remove their equipments The remaining stores were removed by our leet, and the buildings were burned.

The next day the fleet proceeded to Tappa sonock, where Lieut, M'Cres landed a small force, raised the flag, assured the frightened ababitants of safety, and induced them return to their stores and dwellings,

On Wednesday, Master Street, with the Island Belle, captured the rebelleloop Reindeer, with military stores and a rebel mail. Two scho were also taken by the expedition, and two prisoners in uniform were arrested at Union Wharf, fifteen miles from Tappahannock, who gave their names as E. L. Maringo and James

The snar, April 17, 1862.

Inscontars.

The following bemorals were submitted and appropriately referred:

By Mr. WILLEY: From citizens of Harper's Ferry and workmen at the armory, praying for the re-establishment of the national armory at that piace.

By Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts: From the medical cadets of the United States army, praying an increase of the rank and pay of the medical cadet to the rank and pay of brevet second lieutenant of infantry, United States army.

second lieutenant of infantry, United States army,
Also, by the same: Two politions from citizens of Massachusetts, praying the adoption of the principle of "internal taxation simplified," as enggested by E. B. Bigelow to Hon. Thaddens Stevens.

By Mr. HARRIS: From citizens of New York, remonstrating against the tax bill before Congress and the issuing of Government bonds bearing interest, and praying that Treasury notes be issued for the full amount of the unfunded debt.

By Mr. HOWARD: From citizens of Michigan, praying the passage of the bill reported by Hon. F. P. Biair, providing for the construction of a ship canal from Lake Michigan to the Missignippi river.

REFORT OF COMMITTEE.

tion of a ship canal from Lake Michigan to the Missigsippi river.

Mr. HALE, from the Committee on Naval Affair, reported a joint resolution, appropriating \$7,000 for the relief of the marine battallion, the members of which lost their personal effects in the foundaring of the steam transport "Governor," in the expedition to Port Royal; which was considered and passed.

On motion of Mr. GRIMES, a resolution of inquiry was adopted, asking from the President a copy of the testimony and judgment of the recent naval court in the case of Lieutemon Charles E. Fleming, U.S. N.; also the testimony and finding of the Naval Retiring Board in the case of said Lieut. Fleming.

QUALIFICATIONS OF VOTESS.

Mr. GRIMES called up the bill prescribing the qualifications of voters in the cities of Washington and Georgetown, in the District of Co-

the qualifications of voters in the cities of Washington and Georgetown, in the District of Columbia; which was considered and passed.

insubia; which was considered and passed.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Mr. SIMMONS called up the House bill to establish a Department of Agriculture. The Senate amendments were adopted.

Mr. WRIGHT offered his substitute as an amendment, providing a Department of Agriculture consisting of four bureaus. He presented facts and arguments showing the neglect with which the subject of agriculture had been treated by the Government, and its immense importance as the foundation of all our prosperity, and our dependence mainly for the payment of the national debt. He spoke of the immense value of a single new truth in agriculture, and cited the revolution produced in cattle growing by the discovery of a new grass in Holland, one in Jamaica, one on the Merri mac river, in New England, and the blue grass in Kentucky.

mac river, in New England, and the blue grass in Kentucky.

We had been shut' out from the sugar crop of Louisiana, but the Chinese cane in the West is rapidly taking its place. In three or four of the Western States there were produced last year 10,000,000 gallons of sorghum syrup. Virginia produced, in 1869, 123,000,000 pounds of tobacco, but the supply was utterly unavailable last year, and 10,000,000 pounds had been produced in the last season in four counties of Obio. He spoke of the immense value of the several crops, instancing the 20,000,000 tons of bay, and their appreciation of value by new improvements in new products, improved only increased in the special transition of products had doubled in a hair century, by improvements in agricultural machinery. He alluded to the care with which these interests were festered in Europe, and said he had seen eighty seven variaties of wheat gathered at a European fair.

eighty seves wasted of wheat gathered at a European fair.

He stated that there was item statistical in-formation in this country than in any other is the world. He showed how our powerty of statistical information was used by speculators to get up panics, by which the former was swindled, and at last the foreign buyer would come in and buy heavily at low rates. Laid over.

Over.

INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL.

On motion of Mr. PESSENDEN, the Indian appropriation bill, for expenses of the ensuing year, was taken up, amended, the amendments agreed to ordered to be printed; and the bill postponed to Monday.

MINT AT DEAVER.

On motion of Mr. FESSENDEN, the bill to establish a branch of the United States mint at Deaver, in the Territory of Colorado, was taken up, briefly considered, and passed.

BILL. STOKE.

The resolution of inquiry relative to the imprisonment of Gen. Stone was taken up, when, On motion of Mr. McDOUGALL, it was postponed and made the special order for Mouslay, at haif past twelve.

Mr. LATEAM called up the bill relative to a steam mail line to California, and obtained the floor upon it, when the Senate went into executive session.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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OPENING PRAYER.

The Chaplain, (Mr. STOUKTON,) in the opening
prayer, returned thanks to God for the abolition of slavery in this District—for the emassipation of slavery in the capital of our country.

Its soil is now free from slavery. Its air is also
free and or way it remain forever and eyers. That especially is it remain forever and ever. Tyler...

That especially is it is great blessing, not so Hancock...
much for political purposes as it is an evidence Wetzei...
of the intervention of Divine Providence in the development of another form of o of the great and glorious purpose to be carried on, and complete the great cause of buman freedom.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mr. CRITTENDEN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported back the bill administering the oath of allegiance to American citizens in foreign countries; which was there upon referred to the Committee of the Whole.

spon referred to the Committee of the Whole.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

Mr. Mcl'HERSON, from the Library Committee, reported back the joint resolution supplying the Smithsonian Institution with a copy of each of the volumes of Capt. Wilkes' Exploring Expedition. Passed.

ring Expedition. Passed.

PRINTING.

Mr. McPHERSON, of Pennsylvania, offered a resolution, that 2,000 copies of the bill increasing the medical department of the army be printed for the use of this House. Referred to the Committee on Printing.

COMPRESATION OF RESELT PROPERTY.

Various joint resolutions, reported from the Judiciary Committee by Mr. Bingham, relating to the confiscation of the slaves and property of rebels, &c., were read, but no action taken thereon.

BRANCH POST OFFICES. Mr. Hay, Private Scoretary, delivered a mes-sage from the President, announcing his ap-proval and signing the bill authorizing the Pos-master General to establish branch offices in

On motion of Mr. CAMPBELL, of Pennsylvania, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. Hickman in the chair,) and took up for consideration, under the special order, House bill No. 364 for the construction of a railway and telegraphic line from the Missouri river to the Pacific ocean.

A motion to limit the debate to one hour was rejected.

A motion to limit the debate to one nour was rejected.

Mr. LOVEJOY, of lilinois, said be did not intend making a fancy aposch; the bill was got up by "log-rolling," to represent the interests of certain rullway companies.

It exempts from taxistion lands granted for right of way, an unbeard of thing, and is an objectionable feature.

It provides that if any of the lands granted to aid in its construction shall be found worthless, the company may select lands in lieuthereof in any part of the nation, which is like-wise objectionable.

A. Conson, and stated that they had been drafted and were on their way to camp

Gold was selling in Memphis, on the 18th ultimo, at seventy-five per cent, and allver at lifty per cent, premium.

A. Conson, and stated that they had been drafted on the nation, which is like the company, after completing 40. So at 126 miles of the road, to receive the day in May.

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A. Conson, and stated that they had been drafted and the control of the co

The bonds issued are a lim on the road, but only a like on a particular section of the road. It provides that the company may pay back its evidences of indebtedness in Treasury notes at

Several railways will doubtlers be pushed out that way, but none ever can or will be built under this bill. The main trunk will cost fifty millions, and the side roads or branches

built under this bill. The main trunk will cost fifty millions, and the side roads or branches seventeen millions.

The construction of the road is not a military necessity, but a commercial and social necessity. He objects to voting millions upon millions recklessly when our country is so much is debt. He not opposed to such a road, but is in favor of it, though he droes not consider this a proper time to pass this bill.

Mr. CRADLEBAUGH, of Newada, said no present have a greater interest in the construction of this road than the people of Newada. They say agreated from faitforula by their iscritory is but two years old it has 20,000 inhabitants. Carson City then composed of a few tents, now has 4,000 inhabitants.

Their people carry on a trade with California amounting to several millions anusually, which arises out of its mining operations in the precious metals; five millions per month of gold and silver ore are extracted from their mines. It is not an agricultural or manufacturing country, therefore their supplies of grain, dry goods, groceries, &c., have to be transported across the mountains at enormous rates. He hoped the bill would pass.

Mr. DUNN, of Indions, favored the measure,

the bill would pass.

Mr. DUNN, of Indiana, favored the measure. regarding it as the greatest enterprise of the age; making it the great commercial thorough fare of the world; and hoped it would be con-

age; making it the great commercial thorough fare of the world; sad hoped it would be constructed.

Mr. EDWARDS, of New Hampshire, thought it would be as useful to the East as the West. The communication between the Atlantic end Pacific States is circuitions. The wast region of comming wret of the States would be settled up by the building of such a road. The great and growing interests of our nation demand such a road, white, in a political point of view, it will be of intestimable while to the country. It would bind the two distant regions together, which must never be dismembered. It is a work too gigantic for private enterprise. It deserves our entire support.

Mr. WILSON, of lows, lawared the measure, but objected to the form of the bill, which had no provision for the construction of a branch to the lows line, so as to councet with the Eastern roads terminating in Iowa.

He explained the various routes connecting at various points on the grand Union road, acd desired the bill amended to as to do justice to his own State.

desired the bill amended to as to do justice to his own State.

Rr. WATTP, of New Mexico, said the world never produced such a nation as this; but its great defect is too much talking—too little action. The Paolite ratway had been talked of for the last ten years, but nothing done yet, bayond explorations. We stole those lands from the Indians, and ought not to object to devoting them to public use; those plains are the most glorious the sun over shone on. The great West needs such a road.

Mr. PIKE, of Maine, invoced the postponement of the bill until next session.

Mr. KELLY, of Pennylvania, considered the work a great one, and the time a fit one. The installments are placed so, far in the future an or enable the Government to pay them read-

o enable the Government to pay them read

to enable the Government to pay them readily.

Mr. FESSENDEN, of Maine, thought the war makes the construction of the bill a necreety; the interests of the country imperatively demand it. It would be a great chain, linking the East and West together.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, ecknowledged its importance to the country, but did not regard this as a autiable time to begin the work. Capitalists whald sugged in it and finally swallow up the lands without completing the road. If this rail way were now finished and donated to the Government, we could not run the road. The local business which is the life of a road would amount to nothing, as the country is unsettled.

Mr. BLAIR, of Missouri, did not consider

the war is the way of the project. The rebel-lion is a mere mouthful that we can swallow without difficulty, and that too without chew-ing it. We must legislate for the mighty fu-ture of this Government.

Mr. CAMPBELL, of Pennsylvania, stated mr. CAMPBELL, of Pennsylvania, stated that it had been shown by official figures that the expenses paid on freight by the ocean route was over \$7,000,000 annually, which would pay the entire interest on the bonds. The general debate having closed, the House adjourned.

The Western Virginia Election. The returns of the recent election in West ern Virginia come in very slowly, but so far as received, show large majorities

onstitution and emancipation. The following For. Against. For. Agaics: Barbour 4.9
Doddridge 510
Preston 446
Brooke 292
Mason 659
Wirt 314 1,320 248 Wirt. Davoll (Guy 200 800 2-6 1,053 1,300 precinct) Upshur. Third Reg't Va. Vol. H00 286 795

It will be seen that ten counties voting upon the question of "constitution," did not vote upon the question of "emancipation." no for that purpose having been made in them. The vote open the last ones tion was in all the counties voluntary and in-

96 8 102 40

In the counties given above, those which voted upon both questions, exhibit the follow ing results : Constitutio

Por. Against. For. Against 5,203 410 6,558 224 Union Meding at Patriax Court-House

We learn that on last Saturday the uncon-ditional Pulos citizens of Fairfax county held large and enthusiastic meeting. On being miled to order, Mr. John Hawxburst, delegate from Fairfax county, was chosen president, and Mr. - Brooks, the newly appointed post master, secretary. Whereupon the president explained the object of the meeting, and called upon the Hon. James T. Clow. State Senator of that district, who cam's torward and made a patriotic and spritted speech, giving a history of the restored government of Virginia, from its organization up to the present time; urging the citizens to take steps at once to defend themselves against the armed invaders, who are now prowling around in guerilla bands, murdering their citizens, burning their houses and barns, destroying their property, and carrying them off as prisoners to Richmond, because they dare to uphold the Union, and go in for the Constitution, the Union, and the enforcement of the laws; to organize the county offices, put the militia law in force, and once more testablish civil law under the protection of the restored Government of Virginia. It was also ascertained that there was not a loyal county officer; that they had all turned secessionists under influence of their leaders—such traitors as H. W. Thomas, W. Dulany, and Extra Billy Smith; that they had stelen the county records when the rebel army retreated, leaving everything in disorder and confusion. We also learned that the meeting passed resolutions requesting the government to order an election for all the county folices, on the fourth Thursexplained the object of the meeting, and called

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